

# Non US Funding Agencies: Some views

Michel Jouvin

CNRS/LAL, Orsay, France

[jouvin@lal.in2p3.fr](mailto:jouvin@lal.in2p3.fr)

# Disclaimer

- Several FAs contacted to get their viewpoints on the software collaboration process started by HSF and on the CWP initiative
  - France, UK, Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Canada, Japan answered
  - Spain: not enough time to get a real answer but interested by following up
  - US (DOE and NSF) and China present in person at the workshop
- From shared thoughts to more formal statements
  - Never a commitment: in fact, it was not the request
- This talk is an attempt to summarize the feedback received
  - My understanding of the feedback I received
  - Apologizes for any mistake or misunderstanding
- In next slides, countries are mentioned when they were explicit
  - Doesn't mean it doesn't apply to others

# Main Questions

- Collaboration around HEP software: do you support the idea?
- The CWP should allow to identify cross-experiment SW projects to address the computing challenges that will require some additional manpower
  - Do you think that there are possibilities that your FA may contribute?
  - Do you know of funding opportunities like EU H2020 projects that will should try to be involved in?
  - Are you aware of preparatory discussions for funding calls that would be relevant to us and that we should try to participate in?
- Collaboration with other communities: are there particular topics that we should try to address in collaboration with others and who?

# Importance of Collaboration around SW

- Nobody against collaboration!
- Collaboration should not be restricted to (HL-)LHC software
  - A particular worry in Japan where the main focus is BelleII, with some specificities and a constrained timeline (commissioning started)
- A requirement to optimize resources in constrained budgets (France, UK)
  - Avoid reinventing the wheel in the software solutions adopted by experiments
  - Ensure that the e-infrastructure can be shared between communities and disciplines
- HSF is now a well identified, recognized body
  - Seen as a positive move for HEP community
  - All answers mention the “will to work with HSF”

# Funding...

- As expected, the most difficult topic!
  - Situation difficult/constrained in all countries
  - Funding of HL-LHC upgrades often didn't include SW: may change in the future in some countries (Germany)
- In several countries, increased chance of funding if HEP solutions can be used by other disciplines
  - Particularly true for the base services (data management, computing provisioning...)
  - France, UK, Netherlands, Germany, Italy
- HSF: an help to get national funding (Germany, Canada)
  - “Efforts describing the needs to the funding agencies should continue and the HSF is a great opportunity “

# ... Funding

- Additional manpower for the HSF projects is not excluded but this is too early to commit to anything (France, Canada)
  - Need a more elaborated view of what the community wants: the CWP is an important milestone
  - Funding agencies are also in the process of refining their approach to support SW activities in the various discipline (France, Netherlands, UK)
  - Dialog must continue
- EU: no clear picture of future calls and how to influence them (France)
  - H2020 is a funding source that must used: need to adapt our projects to fit in it
    - Key place for structuring/funding collaboration with other disciplines
  - Influence call definitions: another subject evolving... EU is trying to get more input but channels partly informal still (lobbying)

# Software vs. Infrastructure

- All FAs insist that the infrastructure must be pervasive and common to all communities/disciplines: no choice
  - Constraint on base services (mainly middleware)
  - Importance of strategic directions blessed by project managements (Italy)
    - E.g. WLCG
  - HSF and the CWP should not ignore impact of their choices on e-infrastructures
- Experiment SW seen as less controlled by FAs
  - More freedom as long as they fit with the e-infrastructures and base services available
  - Cross-experiment solutions are welcome as they represent an optimization

# Collaboration with Other Communities

- A strong requirement in most European countries
  - Several FAs (France, Netherlands, UK, Italy) are multidisciplinary and cannot afford to fund community-specific solutions for computing
    - “Major challenge is to overcome fragmentation”
  - Other communities (e.g. astroparticles) did the same: should help to define common or consistent projects
- The main driver for the European policy: European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)
  - H2020 project to promote common solutions/interfaces and interoperability between the various scientific e-infrastructure in Europe usable by all disciplines
    - Most/all European FAs who answered are involved
  - An HEP SW roadmap must have this in mind and be consistent with it (France)



# Conclusions

- Positive feedback about the SW collaboration that has been started by the HSF 2 years ago
  - HSF well identified
  - Seen as one initiative that should help to express an HEP view: important for many funding agencies
- Too early to commit to any specific support for the common projects out of HSF and the CWP: an iterative process that is just starting
  - No refusal to discuss
- Collaboration with other communities and common solutions are very important
  - In fact, may be a requirement for the additional funding in some countries
- Exchanges to prepare the workshop seen as the start of dialog that must continue